

AgriBiz!

SC Agricultural Education Magazine

Volume XI Issue 2 2010



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Troy Dobbins—*Secretary*, Townville, SC
Holly Benenhaley—*Vice President*, Sumter, SC
Scott Sherard—*Vice President*, Abbeville, SC
Seamus Cassidy—*Vice President*, Aiken, SC
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John W. Parris
State Director,
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STATE FFA OFFICERS ELECTED AT CLEMSON CONVENTION



Holly Benenhaley
Vice President

Courtney Threatt
Vice President

Katie Simpson
President

Troy Dobbins
Secretary

Scott Sherard
Vice President

Seamus Cassidy
Vice President

Katie Simpson, a 2010 graduate of Abbeville High School, was elected state president of the SC FFA Association at the closing session of the State FFA Convention held at Clemson University, June 9-11, 2010. Katie is the daughter of Samantha Vaughn and Tony Simpson of Abbeville. Her FFA advisor is Fred Raines, Agricultural Education instructor at Abbeville High School.

Troy Dobbins, a rising senior at Pendleton High School, was named state secretary of the organization. He is the son of Tom and Kathy Dobbins of Townville. His FFA advisors are Blake Berry and Josh Murdock, Agricultural Education instructors at Pendleton High School.

Holly Benenhaley, a rising senior at Lakewood High School in Sumter, was elected vice president of the association. She is the daughter of Stacy and Stacey Benenhaley of Sumter. Her FFA advisor is Jillian Lash, Agricultural Education instructor at Lakewood High School.

Scott Sherard, a 2010 graduate of Calhoun Falls Charter School in Calhoun Falls was elected vice president. He is the son of Calvert and Suzie Sherard of Abbeville. His FFA advisor is Carrie Caldwell, Agricultural Education instructor at Calhoun Falls Charter School.

Seamus Cassidy, a 2010 graduate of Aiken High School was elected a vice president. He is the son of George and Roe Cassidy of Aiken. His FFA advisor is Meghan Wood, Agricultural Education instructor at Aiken High School.

Courtney Threatt, a rising senior at McBee High School, was also elected vice president of the state association. She is the daughter of Scott and Robin Threatt of McBee. Her FFA advisor is W. Pat Earle, Agricultural Education instructor at McBee High School.

SENATOR VERDIN PRAISES AGRIBIZ MAGAZINE ON TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF PUBLICATION

Senator
Daniel B. Verdin III



Front Cover of
First Edition of
AgriBiz!



State Senator **Daniel B. Verdin III** of Laurens, chairman of the State Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, has recognized the tenth anniversary of the publication of the SC Agricultural Education magazine by the SC FFA Association.

The magazine is edited by John W. Parris, state director of public affairs for Agricultural Education, who is employed by the SC FFA Association and funded by the SC FFA Foundation. The magazine is designed by Thurmond Technology Center FFA Alumnus and Clemson University graduate Clinton D. Henderson III, an official with emediagroup, in Greenville, SC.

In recognizing the magazine, Senator Verdin said in a prepared statement that **"Education is dependent on good communication. AgriBiz is an essential tool, just as sturdy farm equipment and modern technology. Sincere thanks and congratulations for making this publication a reality for 10 years!"**

The first issue was distributed around the first of 2001. Pictured on the front cover is Blake Berry, the first recipient of the State FFA Star in Agribusiness and state FFA president in 2000-01, and Ashley Pace, State FFA Star Farmer in 2000. Blake is an alumnus of the Hillcrest chapter in Simpsonville and Ashley is an alumnae of the Britton's Neck chapter.

SC FFA STARS

Three SC FFA members were recognized as State Stars during the State FFA Convention held at Clemson University in June.

Lauren McGill a member of the **Clover Chapter**, was named the State Star Farmer and received a \$1500 check from the **SC Cooperative Council**, sponsor of the award.

Stephanie Johnson, a member of the **Anderson Chapter**, was recognized as the State Star in Agribusiness and received a \$1200 check provided by **Southern States Cooperative** and the **SC FFA Foundation**, sponsors of the award.

Rose Tolson, a member of the **Chesterfield Chapter**, took top honors as State Star in Agricultural Placement and received a \$1200 check from the **SC FFA Foundation**, sponsor of the award.

Ronnie Summers

(left), representing the SC Cooperative Council; **Lauren McGill**, Lauren's parents



Tammy and Jimmy McGill; and Clover FFA Advisor **Carrie C. Bolin**.

Stephanie Johnson (second from left); her father, **Chad Johnson**; her mother **Melissa Johnson** and Anderson FFA Advisor **Ashley Granata**.



Rose Tolson (second from right); her brother **J. T. Tolson** (left); her mother **Marcia Tolson** and Chesterfield FFA Advisor **Gerald Hargett**.



SC GOLD EMBLEM FFA CHAPTERS

Three of the nine Gold Emblem Chapters were awarded the Governor's Citation during the State FFA Convention. The **Manning Chapter**, under the direction of **Michael Haynes**, received the Community Development Citation.

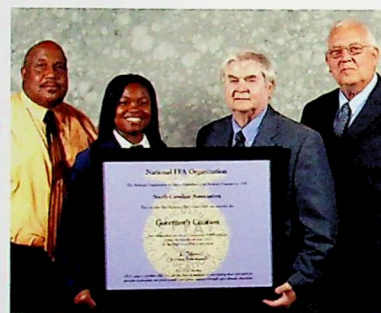
The **McBee Chapter**, led by **W. Pat Earle**, was awarded the Chapter Development Citation.

The **Midland Valley Chapter**, guided by **Jeremy Brooks**, accepted the Student Development Citation.

The Citations were presented by **Larry Rogers**, an official with the **USDA Farm Service Agency**, sponsor of the chapter recognition program. **Wesley Harris**, executive director of the SC Rural Rehabilitation Corporation, a co-sponsor of the program, presented each chapter a check for \$1000 in recognition of their accomplishments.

Six other Gold Emblem Chapters recognized were **Abbeville**, **Aiken**, **Anderson**, **Barnwell**, **Walhalla** and **West Oak**.

Manning Chapter



Manning FFA Advisor **Michael Haynes** (left), FFA President **Maya Haynes**, USDA Farm Service Agency official **Larry Rogers** and **Wesley Harris**, SC Rural Rehabilitation Corporation.

McBee Chapter

McBee FFA Advisor **W. Pat Earle** (left), FFA President **Calin Jowers**, presenters **Larry Rogers** and **Wesley Harris**.



Midland Valley Chapter



Midland Valley FFA Advisor **Jeremy Brooks** (left), FFA officer **Lauren Overstreet**, presenters **Larry Rogers** and **Wesley Harris**.

SC FFA AND AG EDUCATORS PRESENT FLOWERS TO LANDSCAPE STATE CAPITOL GROUNDS

FFA members and Agricultural Educators from throughout South Carolina contributed more than 400 flats of spring bedding plants to landscape the State Capitol grounds at a special ceremony in Columbia on April 21.

The **Presentation of Flowers Ceremony** is an annual project of the SC FFA Association and the SC Association of Agricultural Educators. The plants were grown by FFA members who are enrolled in Horticulture, Greenhouse Management or Landscape Technology courses taught by Agricultural Educators in secondary schools.

Participants in the ceremony included **Pat Black**, Horticulture instructor at Branchville High School, who presided at the event; Senator **Danny Verdin**, Laurens, Chairman of the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee; State Representative **Jeff Duncan**, Clinton, chairman of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee; **Larry Boyleston**, Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture; **Billy Keels**, State Director of Agricultural Education; State FFA Officers **Kerry Lee Cox**, **Emmanuel Bankston** and **Kesley Bridges**; and **Mark Earle**, State President of the SC Agricultural Educators Association and Horticulture instructor at Hillcrest High School.

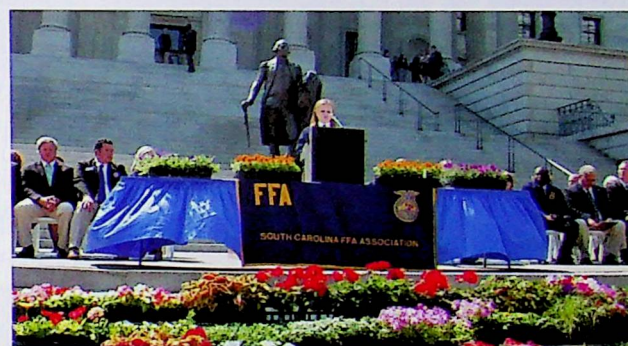
Pendleton FFA Advisor **Blake Berry** introduced and recognized the State Champion Floriculture Team and Pendleton FFA Advisor **Josh Murdock** introduced and recognized the State Champion Nursery-Landscape Team.

The event was planned and coordinated by **John W. Parris**, state director of public affairs with the SC FFA Association, and **Dennis Haigler** Horticulturalist with the Office of General Services, the Budget and Control Board.



Mark Earle (left), Representative Jeff Duncan; Senator Danny Verdin, Pat Black, Larry Boyleston and Kerry Lee Cox.

*State FFA
President
Kerry
Lee Cox
speaking
at the
ceremony*



"A SOUTH CAROLINA TASTE EXPO" FOR STATE LEGISLATORS

State FFA Officers **Kerry Lee Cox**, **Kesley Bridges** and **Emmanuel Bankston** attended the **South Carolina Taste Expo** for State Legislators at the State Capitol in May.

Sponsored by the Palmetto Agriculture and Food Industry Council, the event is held to acquaint state law-makers and other officials with the diversity, quality and economic importance of food products grown, processed and marketed in South Carolina. A number of vendors served samples of beef, milk, ice cream, vegetables, fruits, spreads and specialty items.

The state officers served as official greeters and interacted with the legislators, other state officials and agricultural industry representatives. They also enjoyed an abundance of good food during the day. The officers were accompanied by **John W. Parris** state director of public affairs with the SC FFA who arranged for their participation and **Keith Cox**, state FFA executive secretary-treasurer with Clemson University.

The Expo is coordinated by SC FFA Alumnus **Kelly Smith**, executive director of the SC Dairy Association, of Irmo.



Emmanuel Bankston (left), Kerry Lee Cox, State Senator Nikki Setzler and Kelsey Bridges.



State FFA Officers with officials of the SC Cattlemen's Association

ANDERSON SOUTHERN STATES STORE TAKES NATIONAL HONORS IN FFA FUND RAISING CAMPAIGN

The **Southern States Store** in Anderson, SC, took top honors in a national FFA "paper emblem" fund raising campaign conducted by the cooperative's stores throughout the nation in concert with the National FFA Foundation and local chapters. The Anderson campaign was conducted February 22-March 20, 2010.

The Anderson store joined with the Anderson and Crescent FFA Chapters to promote the campaign and sold paper FFA emblems to customers to support the FFA. As a result of the success of the event, FFA emblems wallpapered the store throughout the spring in recognition of the cooperative's commitment to educating young people involved in agriculture.

In addition to the emblems, Anderson and Crescent FFA members sold hamburger plates, boiled peanuts and beef jerky at the store. They also manned a dunking booth which was a big hit during the campaign.

When the campaign ended, the Anderson store had raised \$5565.00 and took first place honors in the national effort for selling the most FFA emblems of any store.

The **Anderson** and **Crescent** FFA Chapters each received a check for \$1391.25 and the State FFA Association was awarded a check for \$580. The other half of the funds raised were presented to the National FFA Foundation.

FFA alumnus **Kenny Brown**, Assistant Director of the Anderson store, says he is glad Southern States teamed up with FFA in this fund raising campaign. "It was a win-win situation for all involved," he emphasized. Mr. Brown is already working with Anderson FFA advisors **Jay Copelan** and **Ashley Granata** and Crescent FFA advisors **Tim Keown** and **Roger Estridge** to finalize plans for a similar campaign in the up-coming school year.

The Anderson and Crescent FFA officials were presented checks during the state FFA convention at Clemson University in June by **Jackie Cutter**, Feed Sales and Technical Representative with Southern States Stores from Manning, SC. He also presented a symbolic check for \$59,715.92 to National FFA Vice President **Randa Braune** representing the total amount of funds raised by Southern States stores for local chapters, state associations and the National FFA Foundation.



Anderson FFA Advisor Jay Copelan (left), Southern States Cooperative Official Jackie Cutter, FFA Member Anna Copelan and FFA Advisor Ashley Granata.



Crescent FFA Advisor Tim Keown (left), Southern States Cooperative Official Jackie Cutter, Crescent FFA member Melissa Russo and Crescent FFA Advisor Roger Estridge.



Jackie Cutter, an official with Southern States Cooperative, Inc., presents National FFA Vice President Randa Braune a symbolic check representing the total amount of funds raised by the Anderson store and other Southern States stores throughout the nation in support of the FFA.



Pictured at the Anderson Southern States store during the FFA Paper Emblem Sale are Anderson FFA members (seated) Trevor Stamey and Anna Copelan. Standing from left are Anderson FFA Advisor Ashley Granata; Kenny Brown, Assistant Manager of the store; Crescent FFA Member Josiah Bordick; Anderson FFA Advisor Jay Copelan; Anderson FFA Alumni President Tiffany Alberson; and Anderson FFA member Joseph Copelan.

TEAL PARTICIPATES IN NATIONAL NEW CENTURY FARMER CONFERENCE



Ben Teal, a 2010 graduate of Clemson University with a BS degree in Agricultural Education, was selected as one of 50 FFA alumni from throughout the nation to participate in the **New Century Farmer Conference** in Des Moines, Iowa, July 19-24, 2010. Ben is a McBee FFA alumnus from Patrick, SC.

The conference was a five day power-packed unique learning and networking experience for FFA alumni who are planning a career in farming. The program included: Creating a vision for the participant's farming operation; Focused workshops on key concerns including finance and business; Interactive learning about the latest in Agriculture technology; and Tours of farming and agribusiness operations, including an ethanol plant, in the Des Moines area.

The conference sponsors, **Pioneer Hi-Bred International**, **Rabo AgriFinance**, **Case IH** and media partner **Successful Farming** magazine, covered all expenses including travel, lodging and meals.

The annual conference is coordinated by **Marty Tatman**, Education Specialist-Collegiate Programs, with the National FFA Organization, Indianapolis, Indiana.

EARLE HONORED BY CHESTERFIELD COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

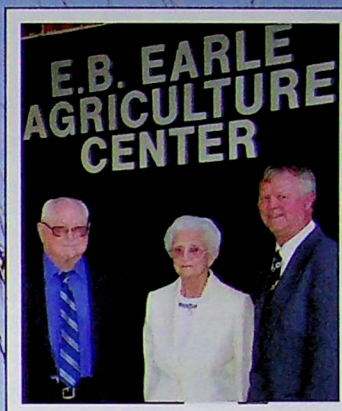
E. B. Earle, a legendary agricultural educator of McBee, SC, was recently honored by the Chesterfield County School Board by naming the Agricultural Education complex at McBee High School the "E.B. Earle Agriculture Center". The announcement was made by School District Superintendent Dr. John E. Williams at the McBee FFA Member Recognition Reception held at the high school on April 28, 2010.

Upon graduation from Clemson University, Mr. Earle, a native of Pickens County, came to McBee to teach Agricultural Education and serve as advisor to the FFA chapter. He and his students soon became known and respected throughout the state and nation for their success in career development events such as Soil Identification and Land Treatment, Livestock Evaluation, Public Speaking, Agricultural Mechanics and more.

Mr. Earle received numerous awards over the years including Chesterfield County Teacher of the Year, the Outstanding Agricultural Educator in South Carolina, the Outstanding Conservation Educator in the state, named one of sixteen Outstanding Agricultural Educators in South Carolina in the twentieth century by the AGRI BIZ magazine and recognized as one of Clemson University's top one hundred Centennial Agricultural Alumni.

"Throughout his fifty years of service to the Chesterfield County School District, Mr. Earle has participated in a host of projects that directly impact the quality of our students' education," Dr. Williams said. "Among the most remembered one was Mr. Earle's role in securing approval by the SC General Assembly to require that twenty-five percent of the proceeds from government-owned land in the county be made available to the school district for general operations," he added.

Since Mr. Earle's retirement some years ago, the Agricultural Education Department at McBee High School has been under the direction of his son, W. Pat Earle, who continues the tradition of excellence that results in state and national recognition of the McBee program on an annual basis.



E. B. Earle (left) with his wife, Sara, and son, Pat, observing the 'E.B. Earle Agriculture Center' sign.



E.B. Earle (left) and Pat Earle observe the bronze plaque on the school building wall permanently marking the E.B. Earle Agriculture Center at McBee High School.

PENDLETON FFA PRESENTS HISTORIC DOCUMENT TO PENDLETON FARMERS SOCIETY



Pendleton FFA Advisor Josh Murdock (left), Pendleton Farmers Society President Fred Raines, Pendleton FFA President Tessa Weatherly and Pendleton FFA Advisor Blake Berry.

The Pendleton High School FFA Chapter held its National FFA Week Celebration Banquet at the historic Pendleton Farmers Hall on February 25, 2010.

A highlight of the program was the presentation of a framed copy of the restored Pendleton Future Palmetto Farmer Chapter Charter of April 1928 to Pendleton Farmers Society President **Fred Raines**, agricultural education instructor at Abbeville High School. The presentation was made by **Tessa Weatherly**, 2009-10 president of the Pendleton FFA, along with FFA Advisors **Blake Berry** and **Josh Murdock**.

The charter will be permanently displayed in the Farmers Hall located on the square in downtown Pendleton. The Future Palmetto Farmers organization was a forerunner of the National Future Farmers of America which was organized in November 1928 and now known as the National FFA Organization.

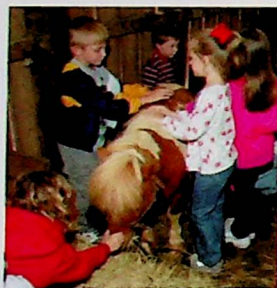
THORNWELL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION CENTER CELEBRATES SECOND ANNIVERSARY

By
William Nelson

Laurens District 55 Agricultural Educator **Melanie Birchmore** serves as director of the Thornwell Agricultural Education Center located in Clinton. She has worked tirelessly over the last 3 years establishing this unique learning laboratory for students in Laurens County and the upstate. July 2010 marks the second anniversary of the Center.



Mrs. Birchmore teaches Agricultural Education students from Laurens school districts 55 and 56 at the Center. She has noted a steady increase in requests for enrollment in courses offered there since the program began.



The Thornwell Agricultural Education Center stands as a testament of support by school administrators in both districts. They did not want the facilities at Thornwell Home for Children to go unused so they partnered to pave the way for students to experience the benefits of Agricultural Education in an impressive setting at a very special place.



Mrs. Birchmore also created a special program for elementary students coined *Baby Animal Day* which is held four to six times each year at the Center reaching more than 1000 students and educators. Those who attend the event learn where their food comes from and about animal agriculture through seeing, touching, smelling and hearing animals including goats, cows, horses, chickens and even Llamas.

The Thornwell Agricultural Education Center provides students an opportunity to gain agrarian experiences otherwise unavailable to them. These learning opportunities promote an appreciation for the agriculture industry that the students will carry into adulthood. (*William Nelson, a graduate of Laurens District 55 Schools and a former state FFA officer, is a junior at Clemson University majoring in Agricultural Education*)

MIDLAND VALLEY FFA TEAM TO COMPETE IN WORLD TOURNAMENT

SC DNR official **Karen Swink** (front row from left), FFA member **Tyler Lanier**, FFA Advisor **Jeremy Brooks**, FFA Team Captain **Aaron Atkinson**, FFA member **Derek Nelson**; SC DNR official **Billy Downer**. (Second row from left) FFA members **Holly Timblin**, **Tina Kovacs** and **Kaitlyn Kirkland**. (Third row from left) FFA members **Devon Puckett**, **Andrew Atkinson**, **Ahrens Dederscheck**, **JD Long**, **Katelyn Montgomery** and **John Redmond**. (Fourth row from left) FFA members **Laurina Jackson**, **Aaron Floyd**, **James Toole** and **Lauren Overstreet**.



The Midland Valley High School FFA National Archery in the Schools Team (NASP) will travel to Orlando, Florida, the first week of October to compete in the World NASP Tournament at the ESPN Center in Disney World. The team members earned the right to compete in the tournament after being named the State NASP champion team.

The Midland Valley team will compete against students from throughout the United States, Canada, South Africa, New Zealand and Australia.

Jeremy Brooks, Agricultural Education instructor and FFA advisor at Midland Valley High School, is the team coach.

The SC Department of Natural Resources coordinates the state competition in South Carolina.

BARNWELL FFA NAMED STATE WINNER IN "CHAMPIONS OF THE ENVIRONMENT"

Barnwell FFA Advisor **Mindy Sandifer** (left) with FFA members **Logan Beasley**, **Matthew Baxley**, **Jacoby Hammond**, **Clay Young**, **Trey Knopf**, **Justin Chavis**, **Shawn Fail** and **Justin Hiers**. **Sam McKay**, director of the Barnwell County Career Center is at right.



The Barnwell County Career Center FFA

Chapter was the State Runner-Up in the "CHAMPIONS OF THE ENVIRONMENT" competition for 2010 and awarded a check for \$1000 at a ceremony at the State Museum in Columbia in May. The chapter had received an initial grant of \$2000 in February to support their Barnwell County Industrial Park Wetlands Restoration Project.

The legendary environmental education promotional program for secondary schools is coordinated by the SC Department of Health and Control and co-sponsored by the agency, WIS-TV 10 in Columbia, Eastman Chemical Company, International Paper and WCSC TV 5 in Charleston with additional support provided by the Environmental Education Association of South Carolina.

The goal of the *Champions of the Environment* effort is to assist students do their part in improving the natural environment. The program awards more than \$25,000 to students and teachers each year.

NATIONAL FFA Vice President MEETS THE PRESS



National FFA Vice President **Randa Braune** attended a Media Luncheon and Press Conference at the Madren Center during her visit to Clemson University for the State FFA Convention. She was interviewed by **Paul Brown** of Williamston, a well known and popular Radio and Television personality. The interview included the production of a thirty minute Radio Talk Show hosted by Mr. Brown and heard by audiences in upstate South Carolina, northeast Georgia and southwest North Carolina.

Mr. Brown, a long time friend of the FFA, was presented the prestigious Honorary State FFA Degree, the highest award available to a select few distinguished supporters of the FFA at the state level, during the state convention.

GILBERT FFA HOSTS AGRICULTURAL DAY



Gilbert FFA Chapter, under the leadership of FFA Advisor **Derrick Cooper**, hosted a successful *Farm Day* event for hundreds of primary and middle school students on the Gilbert Primary School campus in May. Hundreds of students enjoyed an exciting educational experience viewing agriculture equipment of all kinds. There were a number of animals on display for the students to observe and, in some cases, touch. FFA member **David Monts** and Chapter President **Bailey Olinger** take a photo opportunity during the crowded event.

LEXINGTON FFA HOSTS ANTIQUE TRACTOR SHOW



The **Lexington FFA Chapter**, under the leadership of FFA Advisor **Tommy Harmon**, hosted a successful Antique Tractor Show at the **Lexington Technology Center** on Saturday, March 12. A large display of restored tractors and vehicles were on hand to the delight of a large crowd. The event was highlighted by a bar-b-que lunch.

STOVER RECEIVES STATE CONSERVATION AWARD

Frank R. Stover, Jr., (right in photo) Agricultural Education Instructor at Pelion High School, was presented the prestigious State Conservation Honor Award by the SC Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society at the Pelion FFA Awards and Recognition Banquet on May 3, 2010.

The award was presented by **Hugh Caldwell** of Lexington, an official with the Society, who said Mr. Stover was selected for the award because of his outstanding success in conservation education and encouraging so many young people to pursue careers in natural resources and environmental science.

Mr. Stover was nominated for the award by **John W. Parris**, retired executive director of the SC Land Resources Commission and a past president of the Society, who currently serves as the state director of public affairs for Agricultural Education in South Carolina.



BANKSTON NAMED STATE BEEF AMBASSADOR

Emmanuel Bankston of Beaufort, SC, state FFA vice president in 2009-10, has been named the **SC Beef Ambassador** for 2010. Bankston's responsibilities will include promoting the consumption of beef by raising consumer awareness of its value as a reasonably priced, nutritious food. An outstanding speaker, Bankston will also make numerous educational presentations on the importance of the beef industry to student groups and adult organizations. A former SC Farm Bureau Youth Ambassador and a sophomore at Clemson University majoring in Agricultural Education, Bankston will travel to Rapid City, South Dakota in October, 2010, to compete in the National Beef Ambassador Finals.



SALUDA FFA NAMED OUTSTANDING ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY GROUP



SC Department of Transportation Deputy Secretary for Engineering **John Walsh** (left) presented the Outstanding Adopt-A-Highway Group of the Year Award for Saluda County to Saluda High School FFA Advisor **Amanda Nichols**, FFA members **Doug Vance**, **Anna Shealy**, **Kacie Corley**, and **John Shealy** at an awards ceremony in Columbia on April 29, 2010.

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE FFA CAREER

Wagener-Salley
FFA Advisor
Allen Williams
(left) and state
champion
**Agricultural
Mechanics**
team members
Trey Crosby,
Gunter Fogle
and **Kyle Clark**



were awarded expense paid trips to the National FFA Convention by the SC FFA Foundation to compete in the national finals.

Green Sea-Floyds
FFA Team Advisor
Lee Mayfield (left)
and State Champion
Agronomy team
members **Dylan
Collins, Anthony
Owens** and
Dylan Roberts
were awarded
expense paid trips
to the National FFA Convention by the USDA Natural Resources
Conservation Service to compete in the National Finals in October.
Photo provided by Clemson Ag Ed staff



Abbeville FFA Advisor Fred Raines
and State Champion **Dairy Foods** team
members **Gennifer Durham, Lisa
Dornberg, Kaitlin Smith** and **Brittany
Sumner** were awarded expense paid
trips to the National FFA Convention
by the SC FFA Foundation and the
**Clemson University Spring Dairy
Show** to compete in the National
Finals. Photo by Clemson Ag Ed staff



Clover FFA Advisor Carrie C. Bolin
(left) and State Champion **Dairy Animal
Evaluation** team members **Beka Driscoll,**
Leslie McGill, Destiny Butler and **Lauren
McGill** were awarded expense paid trips
to the National FFA Convention by the
SC FFA Foundation and the **Clemson
University Spring Dairy Show** to compete
in the National Finals.



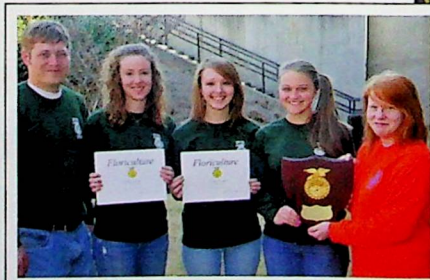
**Pendleton FFA member Mandy
Martin** took State Championship
Honors in the **Dairy Animal
Showmanship** competition and
was presented an expense paid trip
to the National FFA Convention
by **Clemson University Spring
Dairy Show** and the **SC FFA
Foundation.**

**Pendleton
FFA State
Champion
Nursery-
Landscape**
team
members
Grant Dalton
(left), **Troy
Dobbins,**
Tessa
Weatherly



and **Myron Hardin** along with FFA Advisor **Josh Murdock**
were awarded expense paid trips to the National FFA
Convention by **Jaderloon** and the **SC FFA Foundation.**

**Pendleton
FFA Advisor
Blake
Berry** (left)
and State
Champion
Floriculture
team
members
**Katelyn
McIntyre,**
Angel



Woody, Mackenzie Mullikin and **Talena Stewart**
were awarded expense paid trips to the National FFA
Convention by the **SC FFA Foundation** to compete in
the National Finals.

DEVELOPMENT EVENT CHAMPIONS



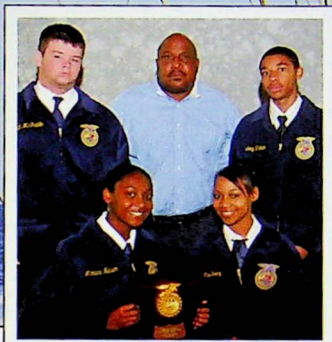
Latta FFA Farm Business Management State Champion team members **Sarah Lane** (left), **Caleb Coleman**, **Kristen Herring** and **Doug Bowman** along

with FFA Advisor **Aaron Miles** were awarded expense paid trips to the National FFA Convention by **SC FFA Foundation** to compete in the National Finals.



Thurmond Technology Center FFA Advisor Darla Steele and **State Champion Forestry** team members **Andrew Wilhelm**, **Zach Rearden**, **Adam Walter** and

Taylor Corley were awarded expense paid trips to the National FFA Convention by the **SC FFA Foundation** to compete in the National Finals.



Manning State Champion Knowledge Bowl team members (seated from left) **Monica Nelson** and **Courtnei Young**; (Standing from left) team member **Hugh McFaddin**, FFA Advisor **Michael Haynes** and team member **Kordell Walker** were awarded expense paid trips to the National FFA Convention by the **SC FFA Foundation** to compete in the National Finals.



Manning State Champion Parliamentary Procedure team members (seated from left) **Echo Buffalo**, **Tatiana Ruiz** and **Catilyn Wirth**; and (standing from left) FFA Advisor **Michael Haynes**, other team members **Amber Brown**, **Mitch Fleming** and **Siquena Witherspoon** were awarded expense paid trips to the National FFA Convention by the **SC FFA Foundation** to compete in the National Finals.



Pendleton FFA Advisor Blake Berry and **State Champion Livestock Evaluation** team members **Nick Garland**, **Troy Dobbins**, **Savanna Gambrell** and **Lindsey Robbins** were awarded expense paid trips to the National FFA Convention by the **SC FFA Foundation** to compete in the National Finals.



Hillcrest FFA Advisor Mark Earle (left) with **State Champion Tractor Operation and Safety** team members **Mitchell Meetze**, **Wyatt Riddle**, **Brandon Roper**, **Joey Mefferd** and **Conner Curry**. The team received a cast award provided by **Carolina Tractor** and **Mahindra USA** and the **SC FFA Foundation**. Photo provided by **Clemson Ag Ed staff**

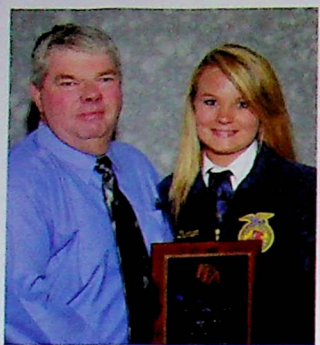


Pendleton FFA Advisor Blake Berry and **State Champion Poultry** team members **Emma Job**, **Zac McDougal**, **Weston Link** and **Amanda**

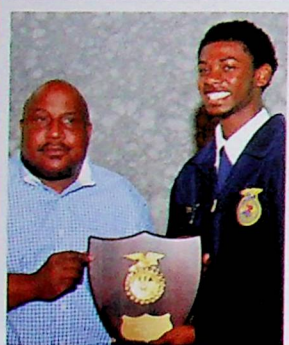
Huntman were awarded expense paid trips to the National FFA Convention by the **SC FFA Foundation** to compete in the National Finals.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT CHAMPIONS CONTINUED

Abbeville FFA
Advisor **Fred Raines**
congratulates
Abbeville FFA
member **Kristy**
Durham upon being
named recipient of
the **Outstanding**
State Individual FFA
Award and receiving
a \$500 scholarship
sponsored by **John**
W. Parris, state
director of public
affairs with the SC
FFA Association.



Saluda FFA Woodland Skills
Clinic team members are
(from left in front) **Alejandra**
Sanches, **Curt Berry** and
Natalie Proctor and (standing
from left) **Saluda FFA Advisor**
Amanda Nichols with other
team members **Gabe Cecil**,
Ryan Martin, **Dakota Smith**
and **Devin Bingham**. **Jimmy**
Waters, an Urban Forester
with the SC Commission
of Forestry is at right. The
team took first place honors
in the multi-county event sponsored by the **Ninety Six RC&D Council** with
technical assistance by the SC Commission of Forestry, the **USDA NRCS**
and the **SC DNR**. The team received a cash award and a tree ID book.



Manning FFA Advisor Michael
Haynes congratulates State
Champion **Job Interview** award
recipient **Gianni Nelson** who
received an expense paid trip to
the National FFA Convention by
the **Clemson University College**
of Agriculture, Forestry and
Life Sciences and the **SC FFA**
Foundation to compete in the
National Finals.



Clinton FFA member
Sadie Lyon took State
Championship honors in
the **FFA Creed Speaking**
competition and was
awarded an expense paid
trip to the National FFA
Convention by the **SC Young**
Farmer and Agribusiness
Association to compete
in the National Finals.



Thurmond Technology
Center FFA member
Jordan Bull took State
Championship honors in the
Upper Division FFA Creed
Speaking competition and
was awarded an expense
paid trip to the National
FFA Convention by the
SC Young Farmer and
Agribusiness Association.



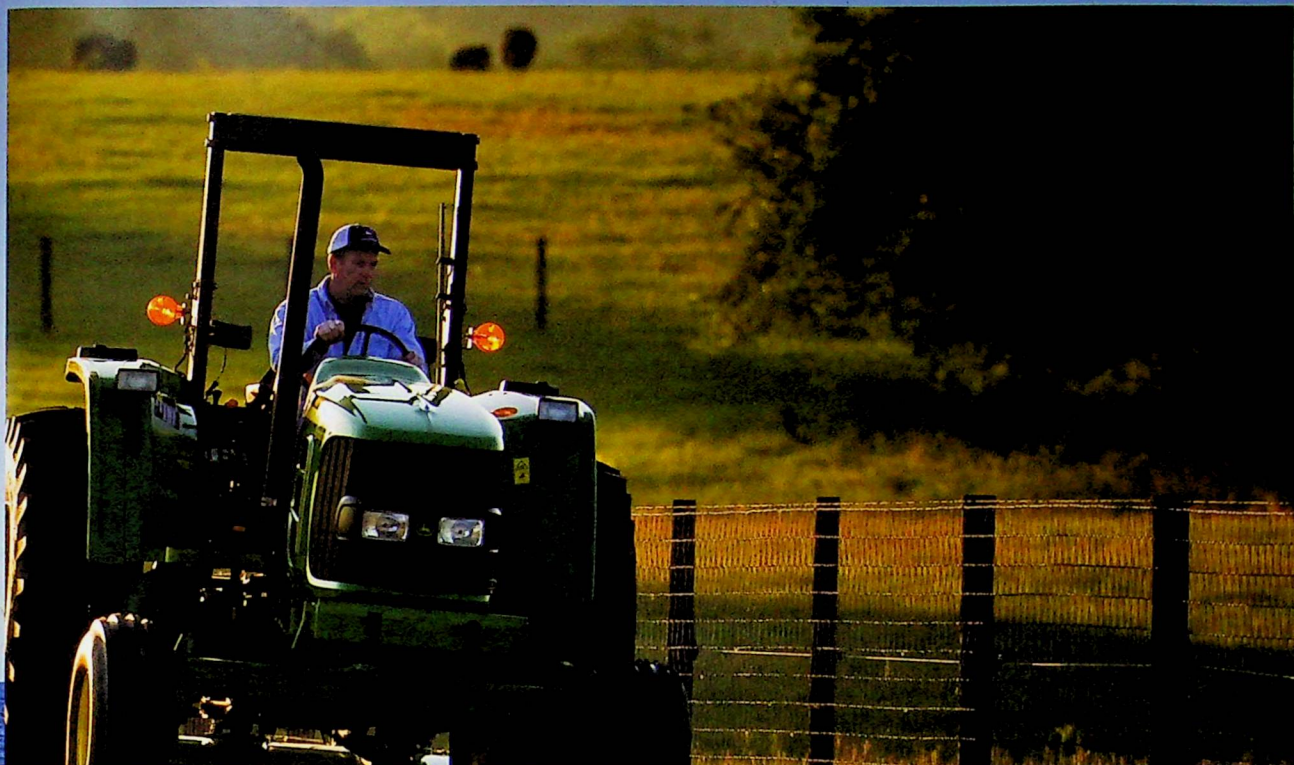
Pendleton FFA Advisor Blake
Berry congratulates State
Champion **Prepared Public**
Speaking award recipient
Mackenzie Mullikin who
was presented an expense
paid trip to the National
FFA Convention by the **SC**
Association of Agricultural
Educators to compete in the
National Finals.



Pendleton FFA member
Troy Dobbins (center)
is congratulated by
Pendleton FFA Advisors
Blake Berry (left) and
Josh Murdock as the
State Champion
Extemporaneous Speaker.
Troy was awarded
an expense paid trip
to the National FFA
Convention by the **SC FFA**
Foundation to compete in
the National Finals.



Wagener-Salley FFA Advisor Allen Williams (left) with
State Champion **Tool Identification** team members **Shane**
Fulmer, **Dillon Overton**, **Greyson Joye** and **Harley**
Gallop. The team receives a cash award from the **SC**
FFA Foundation. Photo by **Clemson Ag Ed staff**



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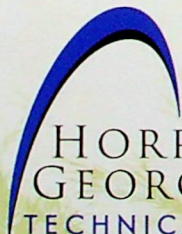
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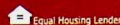
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